

Truckers Convoy and Protective Services

Key Messages for SSE – February 6, 2022 TBD

- Hello everyone.
- I'll provide you with an update what we're seeing in Ottawa and across the country.
- Ottawa police have announced that 70 traffic violation tickets have been issued so far in the 'Red Zone' around Parliament Hill, and that Ottawa Bylaw issued 357 tickets within the protest zone Friday night and Saturday for violations.
- Over 50 criminal offences are being investigated – 11 of which were hate crimes that resulted in charges against four people.
- Concrete barriers and heavy equipment barricades remain in place throughout Centretown, Lowertown, ByWard Market, Sandy Hill and the Glebe.
- Several roads in the downtown core are closed from Rideau Street to Bay Street and Wellington Street to Albert Street, and residents have been advised by Ottawa Police that a number of off-ramps on Highway 417 may be temporarily closed.
- Numbers have increased significantly in the last two days. While we were seeing crowds of a few hundred during the week, by yesterday afternoon there were about 1500-2000 demonstrators on Parliament Hill, 1000 on Wellington Street, and about 10,000 in the downtown core overall.
 - Current numbers downtown are around 100, although we have seen that numbers tend to go up dramatically by early to mid-afternoon.
- Several additional convoys arrived in Ottawa yesterday, including a convoy of tractors that have established themselves on Albert, Lyon, and Kent streets.

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- We're also seeing counter-protests taking place, although fewer than expected, as organizers felt it would be in the interests of public safety to avoid potentially inflaming the situation.
- Chief Sloly has advised that seven organizers represent about 80% of the protestors. They are willing to negotiate more, but right now Ottawa does not have any more concessions to make. They have said they want to be meaningfully heard at a high level, such as at the Prime Minister or Ministerial level.
- Ottawa Police has identified how fuel and other supplies are coming in and are looking at options to choke that off, including criminal charges.
- With respect to the structure and group in Confederation Park, Ottawa Police have negotiated a resolution to remove the structure and secure the site.
- According to Ottawa Police, Wellington Street is the most contained and least risky site, although also the most problematic from a public order perspective given the number of women and children at the site.
- The highest risk site is Rideau Street as this group has the most aggressive stature.
- Discussions underway between OPS and the OPP, who have agreed to stand up their Provincial Emergency Operations Center to enhance coordination efforts, and who may also deploy additional resources to support on the ground.
 - There have been resources from police services across the province that have been directed to Ottawa to provide support to the Ottawa Police.

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- While some of these were called back to their home services to deal with situations in those areas over the weekend, there will be additional resources coming back to Ottawa.
- The OPP have been deployed to assist the OPS since the beginning.
- As of yesterday, there were 109 OPP officers deployed to support OPS.
- While the GoFundMe funds have been cut off, we are aware that convoy are now using the crowdfunding platform GiveSendGo, and the convoy have raised \$1.1 million in 12 hours, according to open sources.
- On the issue of tow trucks, this is a problem in Ottawa, Coutts and likely elsewhere. The heavy equipment to move these types of trucks – and the experience to operate them – is limited. Of those that are available, there are safety concerns in going in to the protest areas with fear of retaliation.
- Options are being explored as to how to incentivize cooperation, but the safety element will still need to be addressed.
- Following the ask for assistance by Chief Sloly, the RCMP has deployed additional members to support the OPS and their mandate.
- The RCMP has committed over 250 people to support the Ottawa Police. This number is required to meet the request to fill 50 posts per day (25 day shifts and 25 night shifts).
- There were a number of solidarity protests across the country yesterday, some of which continue today. These are all being well-managed.
 - For example, in BC, there were convoys in Kelowna, Salmon Arm, Osoyoos, Powell River, Victoria, Fraser Valley, Campbell River, Fort Nelson, Tofino, Fort St. John, and 100 Mile House.

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- Demonstrations and protests also took place at approximately 35 locations across the province of Ontario yesterday.
- Alberta is seeing protests at locations across the province, impacting a number of detachments.
- Toronto, Quebec City, and Winnipeg saw protests near their respective provincial legislatures.
 - **Toronto:** There were as many as 4000 people in the area of Queens Park; one person was arrested.
 - **Quebec City:** There were approximately 10,000 protestors in Québec city yesterday afternoon.
 - **Winnipeg:** Winnipeg Police Service blocked off an area around and near the Manitoba Legislature to allow for the influx of these large vehicles. As you have probably seen in the media, four people were knocked down by an impatient driver, and the driver is in custody.
- The situation in Coutts Alberta persists. Currently at the main site in Coutts, there are 28 commercial vehicles lining the northbound lanes and 24 commercial vehicles lining the southbound lanes of highway 4. Traffic is flowing with a few delays, with one lane open in each direction.
- At checkpoint 10, the RCMP checkpoint 18 km north of Coutts, there 271 passenger vehicle, 53 campers, 32 commercial vehicles, 6 tractors and 400 people.
- We continue to engage both the protestors and the community members both at the main site and at checkpoint 10, and are working with the protestors and the community to develop a process to move the protestors at checkpoint 10 to an area that would allow them to have a legal protest, this would enhance police and public safety.
- The return to Parliament has generally gone smoothly this week, with Parliamentarians able to access the Hill. As of late last week, ingress and egress

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to and from the Supreme Court was also being provided to eight of our Justices.

- We continue to monitor for any changes in the threat level, and have increased patrols in some areas as a precautionary measure.
- It's clear that the residents of Ottawa – as well as the Mayor and City Councillors – want this to end. Ultimately, that is a decision that the City and Ottawa Police will be responsible for making.
- I understand that protest organizers are unhappy with how they are being portrayed in the media and that they will be holding a press conference this afternoon. Hopefully this will provide us with more information on their intentions.
- The RCMP will continue to work with our partners across Canada to ensure public safety as these events take place.
- Thank you.

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